

Agricultural Prices

Utah: Prices received by Utah farmers and ranchers during mid-August 2003, compared with July 2003, were up for barley, and other hay. Alfalfa hay remained the same according to the Utah Agricultural Statistics Service.

The lamb price for July 2003 was \$90.00 per cwt, up \$19.00 from August 2002. The July 2003 sheep price, at \$26.00 was \$3.00 above August 2002.

Barley, at \$2.13 per bushel, was up slightly from the previous month's price but 14 cents below last year. Baled alfalfa hay was \$83.00 per ton, the same as last month but \$20.00 below last year. Other hay, at \$72.00 per ton, was \$2.00 higher than last month and \$15.00 higher than August 2002.

United States: The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in August is 108, based on 1990-92=100, up 3 points (2.9 percent) from the July Index. Since last month both the All Crops Index and the Livestock and Products Index show increases. Higher prices for wheat, dairy, cattle, and lettuce more than offset lower prices for grapes, cantaloup, soybeans, and hogs. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell, based on the past 3-year average, also affects the overall index. Increased average marketings of tobacco, cattle, grapes, and sweet corn more than offset decreased marketings of wheat, hay, dairy, and broilers.

This preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 8 points (8.0 percent) from August, 2002. Higher prices for cattle, broilers, hogs, and tomatoes more than offset lower prices for corn, wheat, hay, and turkeys.

The Food Commodities Index also increased 5 points (4.8 percent) above last month to 109, and is 12 points (12.4 percent) above August last year.

Average Prices Received by Farmers

Commodity	Unit	Utah			United States		
		Entire Month		Preliminary	Entire Month		Preliminary
		Aug 2002	Jul 2003	Aug 2003 ¹	Aug 2002	Jul 2003	Aug 2003 ¹
Livestock & Products							
Lambs	Dol/Cwt	71.00	90.00	(²)	75.30	89.40	(²)
Sheep	Dol/Cwt	23.00	26.00	(²)	25.60	28.60	(²)
Crops							
Barley	Dol/Bu	2.27	2.12	2.13	2.68	2.74	2.58
Alfalfa Hay, Baled	Dol/Ton	103.00	83.00	83.00	101.00	92.70	91.00
Other Hay, Baled	Dol/Ton	57.00	70.00	72.00	71.30	77.80	69.10

¹ Prices refer to sales occurring about the 15th of the month.

² August data will be published next month.